



SWEMP/SWEPIC: Review of a nine year adventure

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey

Dr. Kathryn Thomas
Southwest Biological Science Center
September 6, 2007 Arizona Invasive Species Council

Southwest Biological Science Center

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Southwest Exotic Plant Information Clearinghouse (SWEPIC)



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[[Home](#)] [[Weed Species](#)] [[Weed Lists](#)] [[SWEMP](#)] [[APRS](#)] [[AZ-WIP](#)] [[Team](#)] [[Site Index](#)]



Centaurea solstitialis

The **Southwest Exotic Plant Information Clearinghouse** was developed a cooperative effort between the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Park Service, and Northern Arizona University. The site is no longer maintained; however, you will find links to the last update of the Southwest Exotic Plant Mapping Program (2007), descriptions and findings of the Arizona Wildlands Invasive Plant Working Group (2005), and the most recent version of the Alien Plant Ranking System (7.1).

Weed Species	Weed species profiles
Weed Lists	Noxious and other weed lists for the Southwest
SWEMP	The Southwest Exotic Plant Mapping Program
APRS	The Alien Plant Ranking System
AZ-WIP	Arizona Wildlands Invasive Plants

Please contact [Kathryn Thomas](#) regarding any questions.

Southwest Exotic Plant Information Clearinghouse (SWEPIC)



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Southwest Exotic Mapping Program

The Southwest Exotic Mapping Program (SWEMP) was a USGS Southwest Biological Sciences Center program that coordinated the semi-annual compilation of a regional database of non-native invasive plant distributions for Arizona and adjacent areas of the southwest. The program existed from the late 1990's until 2007 and was supported by the funding and collaboration of federal, state, tribal, and local funders and collaborators.

[Arizona Cooperative Weed Management Area Map 2007](#)

This is version 3 of the cooperative weed management area boundaries based on information provided to SWEMP by June 2007. It is in .zip format (Containing a .jpg file). 2.5 MB

[SWEMP2007 Regional Database](#)

The 2007 update contains 62,000 entries for 221 invasive, non-native species. It is in .zip format (Containing a .mdb file [MS Access]). 2.9 MB

[SWEMP2007 metadata](#)

The metadata provides information about all the fields in the SWEMP2007 Regional Database. It is in .zip format (Containing a .txt file). 16 KB

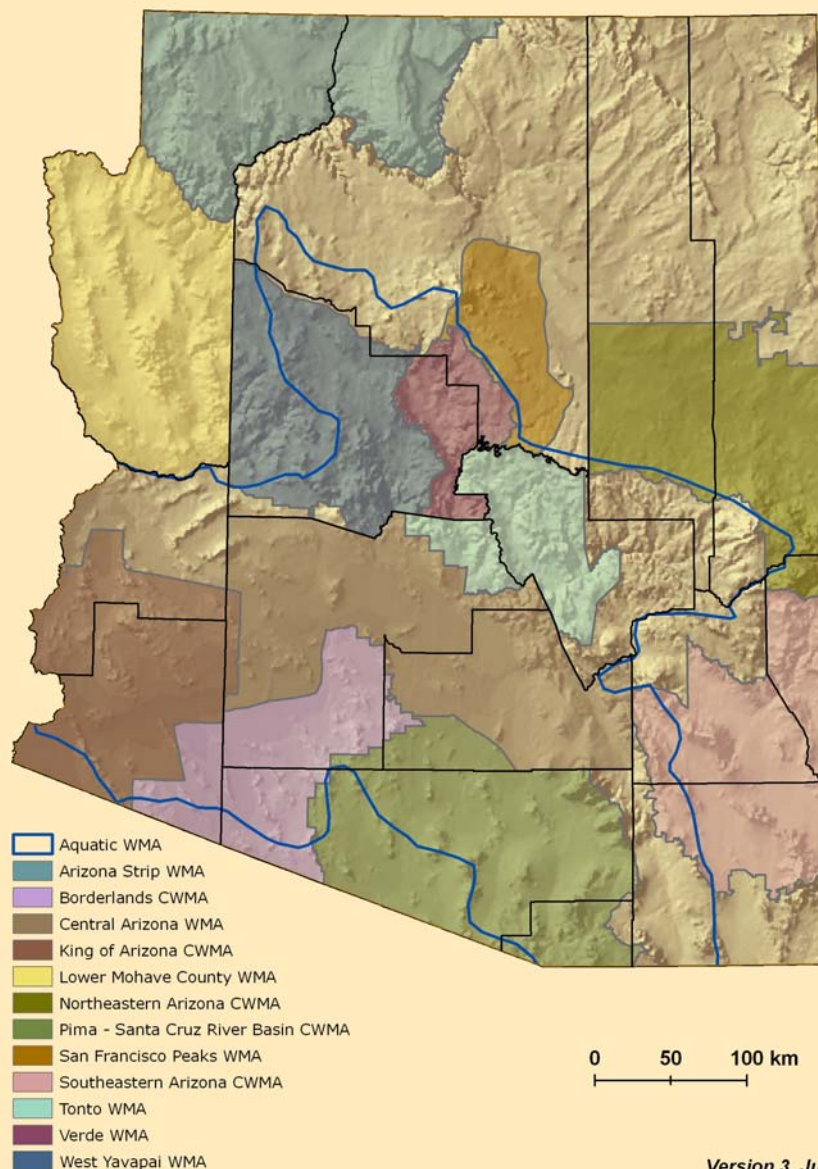
Coming soon – Watch this site

Maps of Select Species for Arizona from the SWEMP2007 Regional Database

Please contact [Kathryn Thomas](#) regarding any questions.

Downloads include a map of the current boundaries of Arizona CWMA's

COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT BOUNDARIES



- USGS open-file-report
- 68 Arizona species as reported in SWEMP 07
- Download from SWEMP site



Acroptilon repens

Synonym: *Centaurea repens*

Common Name: **Russian**

knawweed, hardheads

USDA Plant Code: **ACRE3**

Family: **Asteraceae**

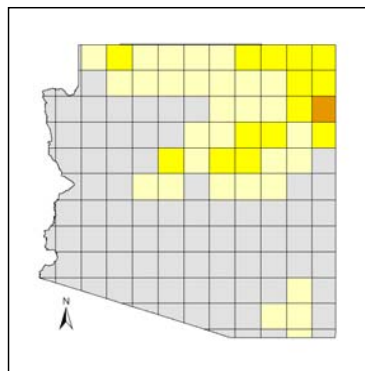
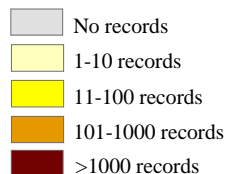
Arizona legal listing: **Prohibited, Regulated**

AZ-WIPWG category: **High**

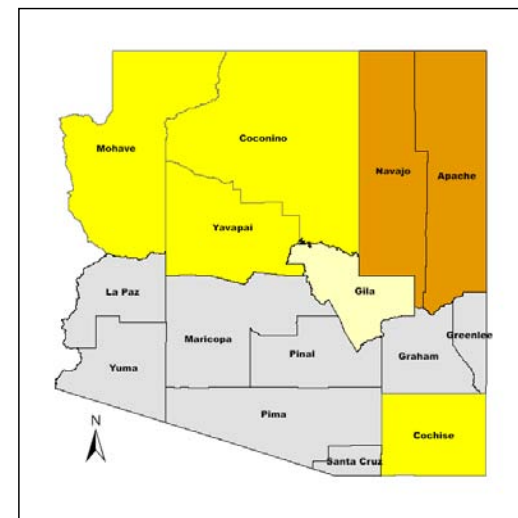
Cal-IPC category: **Moderate**

NatureServe ranking: **High**

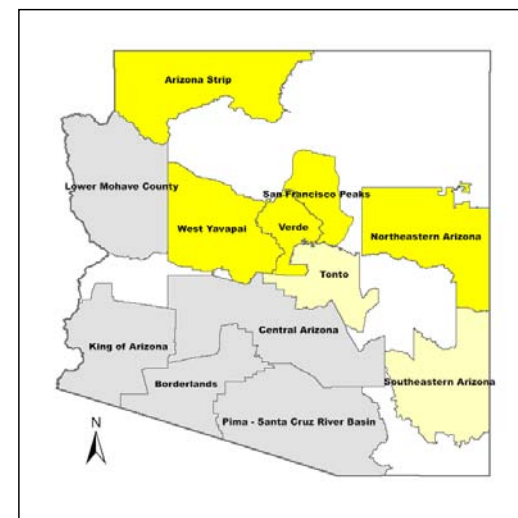
Map legend:



SWEMP occurrence records by
7.5" Topographic Quadrangles



SWEMP occurrence records by County



SWEMP occurrence records by
Weed Management Area

The early years of SWEMP

- GPS not widely used
- Internet use not widespread or well understood
- No standards for collection and sampling
- ‘Why collect data instead of kill weeds’
- No weed management areas, no state council, no Southwest Vegetation Management Association
- No early detection and rapid response system
- Development funds available from NBII and operational funds from Forest Service and BLM

The current climate

- GPS widely used, handheld data collection devices more common
- Internet use widespread, many new features
- NAWMA standards for collection and sampling
- More consensus on the value of systematic data collection
- State has 12 geographic weed management areas covering approximately 2/3 of land, AISC, SWVMA
- No early detection and rapid response system
- Federal agencies (BLM, FS) developing own agency database
- NBII funds not for operational, but have supported federal-state multi-agency collaborations

The Data Pipeline



State Agencies

Tribes

Federal Agencies

County Agencies

NGO's

Interested Public

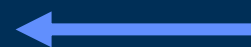
City governments



SWEMP



NIISS



CWMA

Local

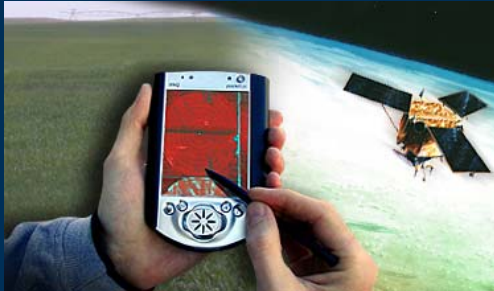


Regional



National

The three data essentials



Data collection

A screenshot of a Microsoft Access database. The table contains columns for ID, Date, Location, Species, Status, and Comments. The data includes various species names and their locations, such as 'S. 1000-1000-1000' and 'S. 1000-1000-1000'.

Data management



Data delivery

The Data Pipeline: Data contributors

State agencies

Tribes

Federal agencies

County agencies

NGO's

Interested public

City governments

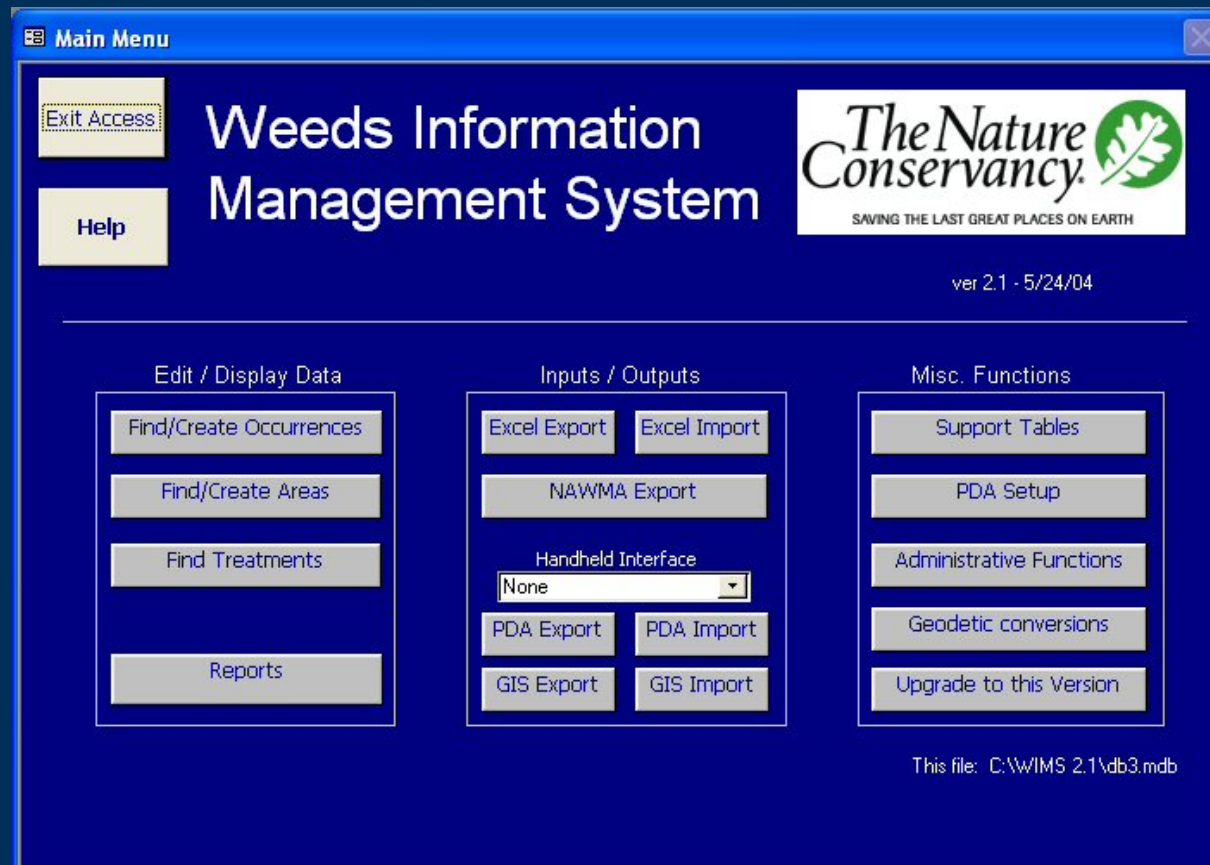
Weed management
areas

Data Collection

Data management

Data delivery

Weeds Information Management System



WIMS

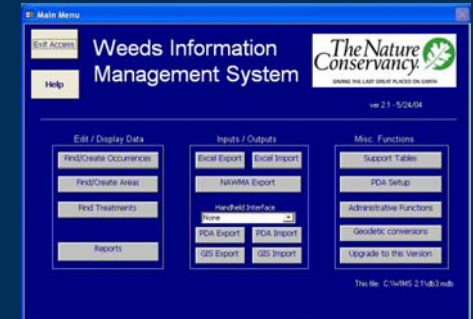
Enter New
Data
manually

Import Data:
- Excel
- Shapefiles
- PDA file

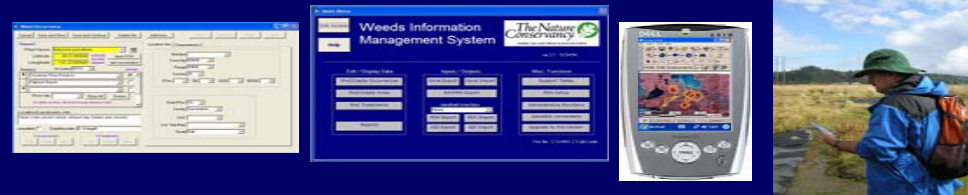


Export Data:
- Excel spreadsheet
- SWEMP output
- Reports

GIS Export to create
shapefiles, to be opened
in ArcMap



TNC's Weed Information Management System (WIMS) *User's Manual*



The Nature Conservancy's Oregon & Idaho Field Offices, NW Division, and Invasive Species Initiative
Version 2.1b

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Southwest Exotic Plant Information Clearinghouse

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Southwest Exotic Mapping Program

The Southwest Exotic Mapping Program (SWEMP) is a USGS Colorado Plateau Research Station (CPRS) program that coordinates the compilation of a regional database of non-native invasive plant distributions for the southwest (Arizona, New Mexico and adjacent areas of adjoining states) and creates maps for those distributions. The program is based on the cooperation of the CPRS and SWEMP collaborators.

We invite you to:

- [Collaborate](#) and share field observation through a the regional database
- Create a [map](#)
- Query the [database](#)

A complete [Users Guide](#) to S

Collaborate
SWEMP
Data Query
SW-WIP
SWEMP
Data Entry
Downloads and Documents

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey,
Colorado Plateau Research Station, Flagstaff, AZ, USA
URL: <http://www.usgs.nau.edu/swepic/>
Last modification: 03/22/05 01:18 PM
Contact: [Kathryn Thomas](#)
[USGS Disclaimer](#)

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Step 1: Collection Documentation

* Denotes a required field.

Location ID:

Data Source: *

Examiner:

Collection Date: * (YYYY-MM-DD)

National Owner:

Local Owner:

Country: -- Select Country -- *

State: *

County:

Proceed to Step 2 -->



The Data Pipeline



State Agencies
Tribes
Federal Agencies
County Agencies
NGO's
Interested Public
City governments



SWEMP



CWMA



NIISS

Local



Regional



National

Some steps in SWEMP data processing

- **Data compilation**
 - **Standardization**
 - **Completeness**
 - **Location accuracy**
 - **SWEMP value added information**
 - **Degrade accuracy private lands**
 - **Transform line and polygon data to points**



**USER'S GUIDE TO COMPUTER TOOLS FOR INFORMATION
SHARING IN THE SOUTHWEST**

SWEPIC, SWEMP AND SW-WIMS

With Appendices

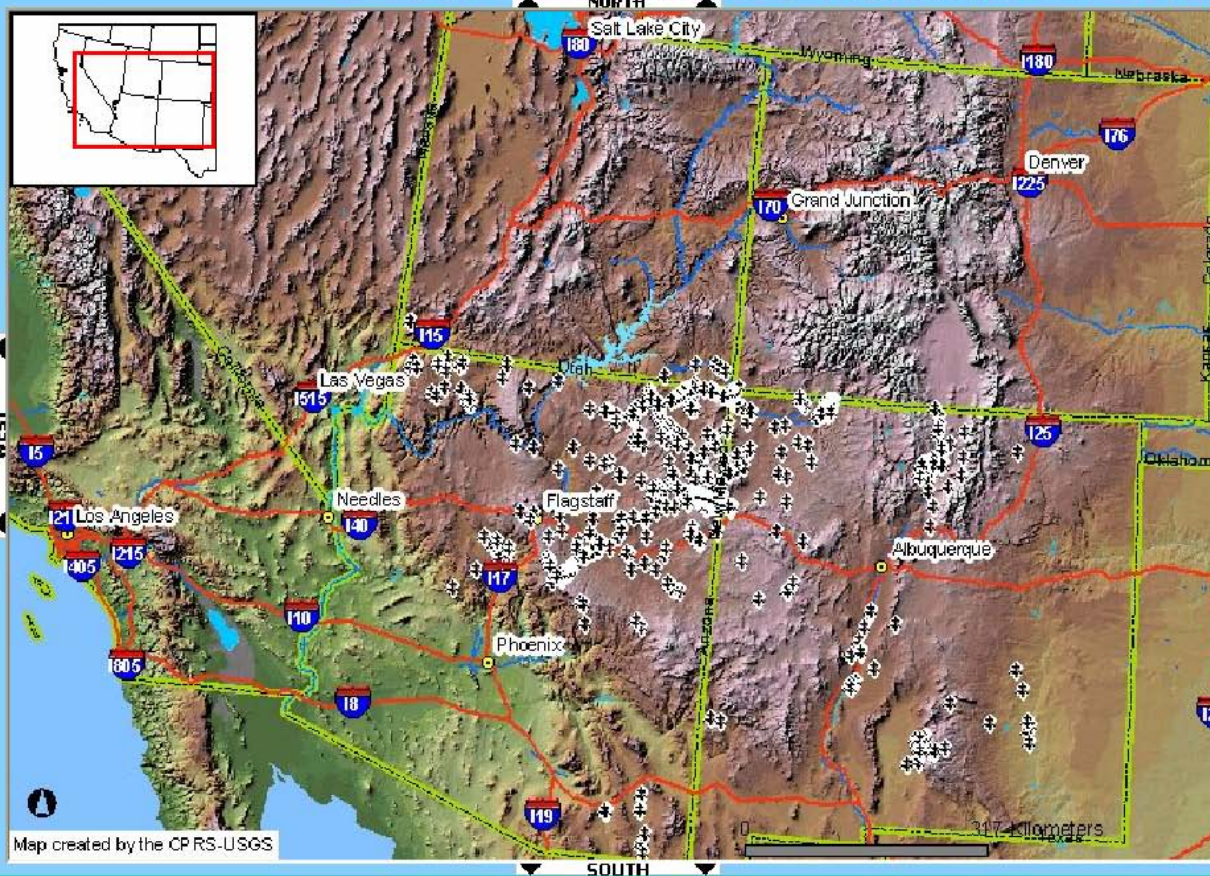
**The SWEMP Team
Colorado Plateau Research Station
Southwest Biological Science Center
U.S. Geological Survey**

**Version 1.0a
4/30/95**



Southwest Exotics Mapping Program

- Overview
- Zoom In
- Zoom Out
- Zoom
- Previous
- Zoom
- Forward
- Zoom Full
- Zoom
- Active
- Layer
- Pan
- Identify
- Lat_Long
- Select
- Rectangle
- Clear
- Print
- Help



Refresh Map

LAYERS LEGEND

LAYERS

- ☒ All Layers
- ☐ Annual Grasses
- ☐ Perennial Grasses
- ☒ Forbs
- ☒ *Acroptilon repens*
- ☐ *Amaranthus blit*
- ☐ *Asphodelus fist*
- ☐ *Arctium minus*
- ☐ *Azolla pinnata*
- ☐ *Berteroa DC*
- ☐ *Brassica tourne*
- ☐ *Capsella bursa*
- ☐ *Cardaria draba*
- ☐ *Carduus acanth*
- ☐ *Carduus nutans*
- ☐ *Centaurea biebi*
- ☐ *Centaurea diffu*
- ☐ *Centaurea melit*
- ☐ *Centaurea solst*
- ☐ *Centaurea spec*
- ☐ *Centaurea trium*
- ☐ *Ceratocephala t*
- ☐ *Chondrilla junce*
- ☐ *Chorispora tene*
- ☐ *Cichorium intybu*
- ☐ *Cirsium arvense*
- ☐ *Cirsium vulgare*
- ☐ *Conium maculat*

IMS Admin: rmstevens@usgs.gov

Site Design: Tim Andrews, Ryan Stevens, Kathryn Thomas

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[Privacy Statement](#) || [Disclaimer](#) || [FOIA](#) || [Accessibility](#)

Layer Info:

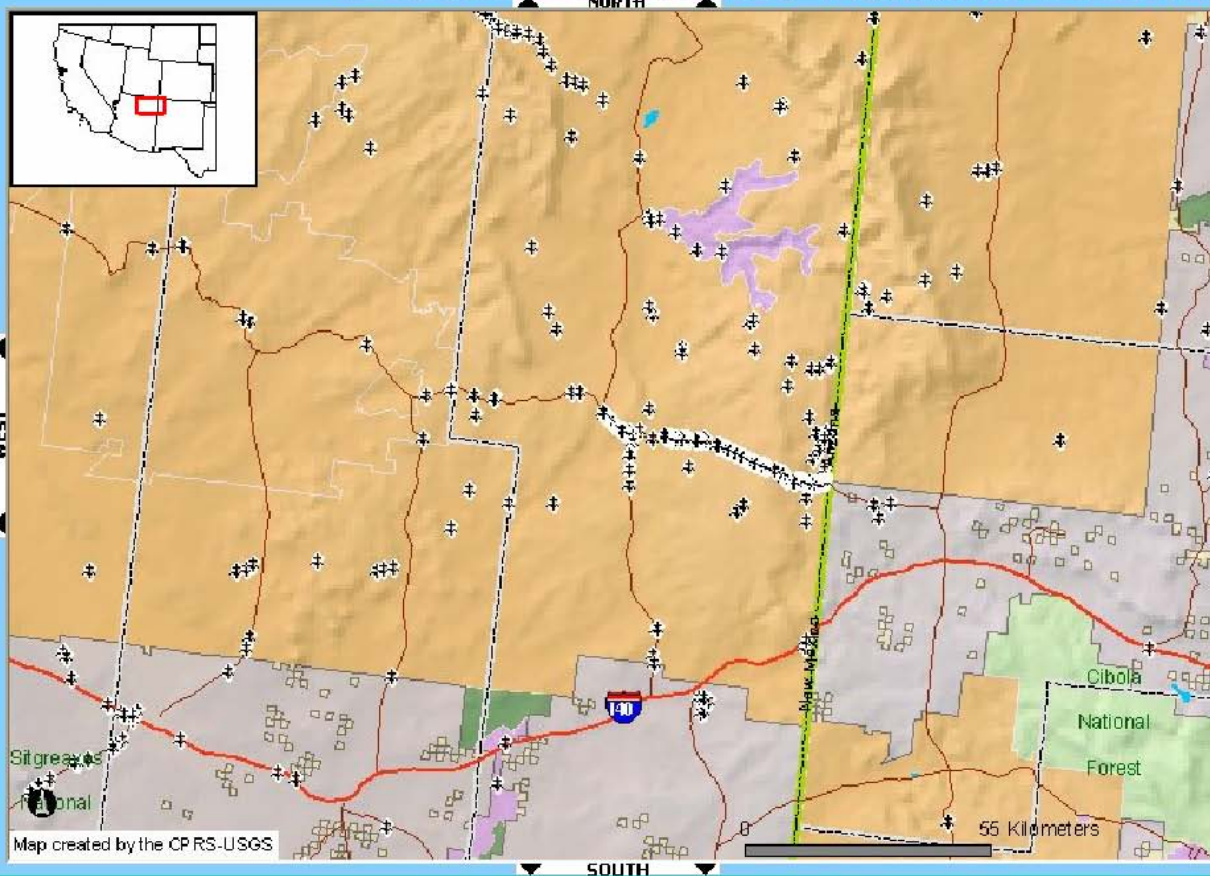
Acroptilon repens
(Russian
knapweed)





Southwest Exotics Mapping Program

- Overview
- Zoom In
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Refresh Map

LAYERS

LEGEND

LAYERS

- ☒ All Layers
- ☐ Annual Grasses
- ☐ Perennial Grasses
- ☒ Forbs
- ☐ Shrubs
- ☐ Trees
- ☒ Southwest Cities
- ☒ Infrastructure
- ☒ Hydrographic Layers
- ☒ Land Unit Boundaries
- ☒ Imagery

Help:

- A closed group, click to open.
- An open group, click to close.
- A map layer.
- A hidden group/layer, click to make visible.
- A visible group/layer, click to hide.
- A visible layer, but not at this scale.
- A partially visible group, click to make fully visible.
- An inactive layer, click to make active.
- The active layer.

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Layer Info:

Acroptilon repens
(Russian
knapweed)



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Collaborate

We invite government agencies, tribes and other interested parties in the southwest, primarily Arizona and New Mexico (as well as the adjacent areas of bordering states) to participate in the continued expansion of the SWEMP regional database. You do not need to financially contribute to submit data.

There are four ways to submit data to SWEMP. We accept data:

- As an Excel spreadsheet or Access database sent to the SWEMP team using our "[Guide to the SWEMP Database](#)",
- As an agency database shared with the SWEMP team,
- As an export file from the [SW-WIMS database manager](#), or
- As an entry on the [SWEMP Data Entry](#) page.

If you are interested in sharing data or have questions please contact the [SWEMP team](#) or [Dr. Kathryn Thomas](#), 928 556-7466 x235. Together collaborators and the SWEMP team make this project a reality.

[Collaborate](#)
[SWEMP Data Query](#)
[SW-WIMS](#)
[SWEMP Data Entry](#)
[Downloads and Documents](#)



Southwest Biological
Science Center

Southwest Exotic Plant Information Clearinghouse

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Choose up to four of the criteria below. Choose only one filter for each criterion. If the filter is not important, no action is needed. The query results will display only 10 records to a page.

Weed Criteria

USDA Plant Code:
Scientific Name:
Common Name:

Land Administrator Criteria

Local Owner:
National Owner:

Size Category Criteria

Infestation Size (acres):

Geographic Criteria

Cooperative Weed Management Area:
Aquatic Weed Management Area:
County:
State:

Weed Criteria

USDA Plant Code:
Scientific Name:
Common Name:

Land Administrator Criteria

Local Owner:
National Owner:

Size Category Criteria

Infestation Size (acres):

Geographic Criteria

Cooperative Weed Management Area:
Aquatic Weed Management Area:
County:
State:

Survey Number	Swamp Site Code	USDA Code	Common Name	Collection Date	County	State	Local Land Owner	Infested Area
50135	GRCA05b-0107	BRT0	African mustard	2005-04-16	Coconino	Arizona	Unknown	<0.1
50133	GRCA05b-0105	BRT0	African mustard	2005-04-14	Coconino	Arizona	Unknown	0.1 to <=1
50132	GRCA05b-0104	BRT0	African mustard	2005-04-13	Coconino	Arizona	Unknown	0.1 to <=1
50123	GRCA05b-0095	BRT0	African mustard	2005-03-29	Coconino	Arizona	Unknown	5.1 to <=25
50120	GRCA05b-0092	BRT0	African mustard	2005-03-27	Coconino	Arizona	Unknown	0.1 to <=1
50121	GRCA05b-0093	BRT0	African mustard	2005-03-27	Coconino	Arizona	Unknown	1.1 to <=5
50122	GRCA05b-0094	BRT0	African mustard	2005-03-27	Coconino	Arizona	Unknown	1.1 to <=5
50109	GRCA05b-0081	BRT0	African mustard	2005-03-26	Coconino	Arizona	Unknown	<0.1
50118	GRCA05b-0090	BRT0	African mustard	2005-03-26	Coconino	Arizona	Unknown	1.1 to <=5
50066	GRCA05b-0038	BRT0	African mustard	2005-03-12	Coconino	Arizona	Unknown	5.1 to <=25
							Total: 10	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...								

Total Records: 997





Southwest Biological
Science Center

Southwest Exotic Plant Information Clearinghouse

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Centaurea solstitialis

The Southwest Exotic Plant Information Clearinghouse is a cooperative effort among the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Park Service and Northern Arizona University to organize comprehensive information on exotic plant species in the southwest on one web location. SWEPIC serves to help all people and organizations committed to protecting the ecological and economic values of southwest resources from degradation from harmful non-native weeds. The goal of SWEPIC is to provide reliable and organized information on the distribution and ecology of these weeds in the southwest, with an emphasis on forests, rangelands, and other natural areas. Please contact us if you have information or comments that should be included in SWEPIC ([SWEPIC Team](#)).

Weed Species	Weed species profiles
Weed Lists	Noxious and other weed lists for the Southwest
Maps	Maps of southwest non-native invasive plants
SWEMP	The Southwest Exotic Plant Mapping Program
APRS	The Alien Plant Ranking System
AZ-WIP	Arizona Wildlands Invasive Plants

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey,



Southwest Exotic Plant Information Clearinghouse

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Acroptilon repens

Synonym: *Centaurea repens*

Common Name: Russian knapweed, hardheads

USDA Plant Code: ACRE3

Family: Asteraceae

Legal listings: [Arizona](#) [Colorado](#) [New Mexico](#) [Utah](#) [California](#) [Nevada](#)

[Cal-IPC California Invasive Plant Inventory](#) Category: Moderate

[AZ-WIPG](#) Category: High

[View Plant Assessment](#)

[NatureServe Ranking:](#)

High/Medium

[Alien Plant Ranking System](#) Locations:

[Colorado State](#)

[Grand Canyon National Park](#)

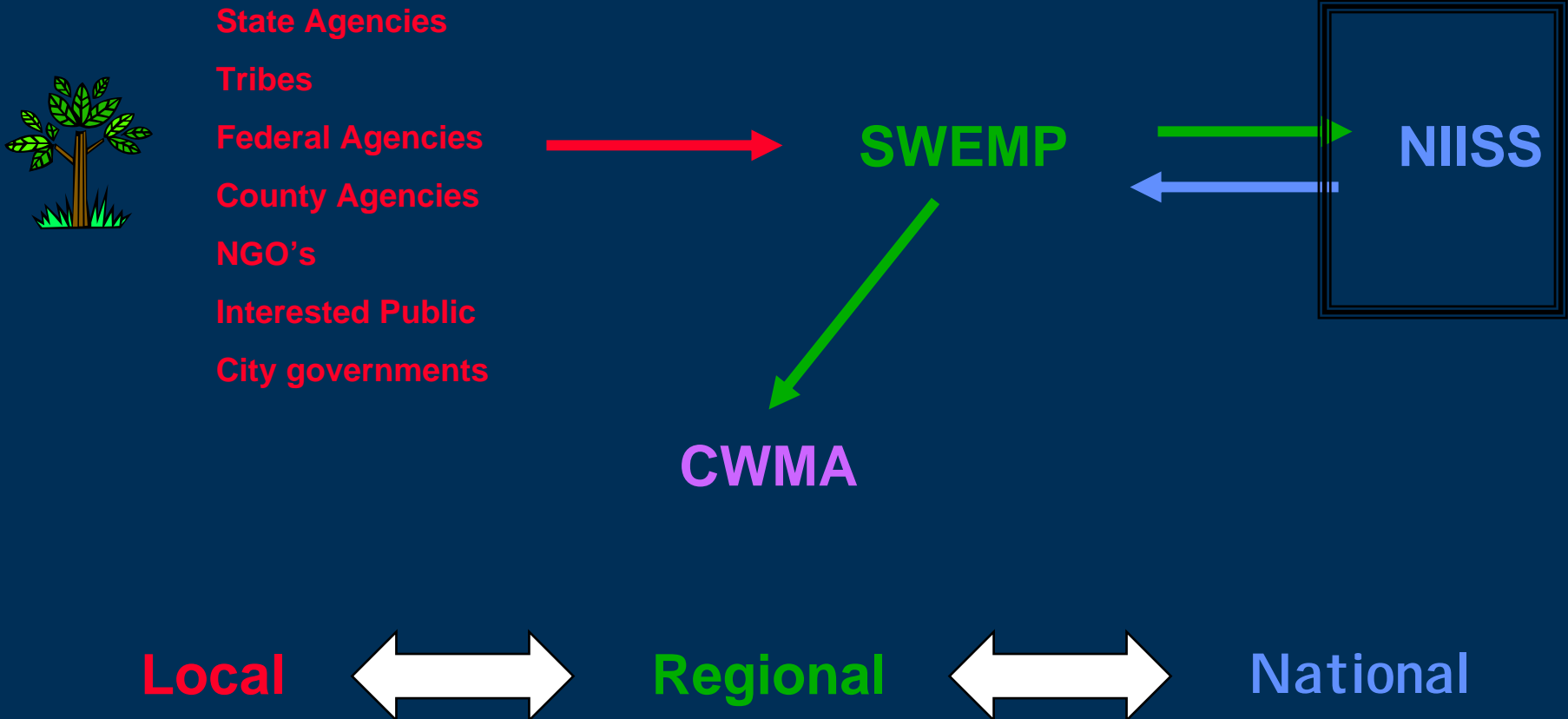
More web information:

[US Forest Service Fire Effects Information](#)

[PLANTS database](#)

[Encycloewedia](#)

The Data Pipeline



The National Institute of Invasive Species Science

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USGS Fort Collins Science Center *Online*

Gather Data

[Field Methods](#)
[Field Tools](#)

Browse Data

[By Organization](#)
[By Location](#)
[By Species](#)
[By Project](#)
[By Map](#)

Contribute Data

[Survey Data](#)
[New Sightings](#)
[Data Standards](#)

Analyze Data

[Spreadsheets](#)
[GeoRasters](#)

Download Data

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[Login](#)

Species Info

Interested in a specific species? We are collecting data on key invasive species. Type a species:

Search By:	For:
Scientific Name:	<input type="text"/>
Common Name:	<input type="text"/>
NRCS Code:	<input type="text"/>
<input type="button" value="Reset"/> <input type="button" value="Submit"/>	

In The News

- Desert Fires' Damage Will Last [More...](#)
- New USGS Research Factsheet! [More...](#)
- USGS NAS summary graphs available [More...](#)
- USGS NAS launches alert system [More...](#)
- Volunteer Monitoring Program announced [More...](#)

[Show all](#)

In Your Area

What's in your area? Find out!

- [Select an area of interest](#)
- [Query our database](#)
- [View our map](#)

New At NIIS

- Tamarisk Habitat Suitability Map [Read more...](#)
- New NIIS Factsheet available! [Read more...](#)
- Spreadsheets & GeoRasters [Read more...](#)
- Presence attribute now added [Read more...](#)
- New at NIIS & In the News [Read more...](#)

[Show all](#)[T-Map](#)[Tips From the Field](#)

NEW NIIS Flyer [PDF](#) **NEW**
NEW NIIS User's Guide Brochure [PDF](#) **NEW**
Draft Business Plan (v.4.0) [MS Word](#) or [PDF](#)
NIIS Strategic plan [MS Word](#)
Progress report [MS Word](#)



NAS - Nonindigenous Aquatic Species

NAS Program
Home

News

Alert System

Database &
Queries

General Taxa
Information

Links to Other
Resources



Welcome to the **Nonindigenous Aquatic Species (NAS)** information resource for the United States Geological Survey. Located at the Center for Aquatic Resource Studies, this site has been established as a central repository for accurate and spatially referenced biogeographic accounts of nonindigenous aquatic species.

Through the links below you can obtain information, maps, or issue queries to the NAS database regarding different nonindigenous aquatic species.

Vertebrates



Amphibians



Reptiles



Fishes



Mammals

Invertebrates



Tunicates



Bryozoans



Sponges



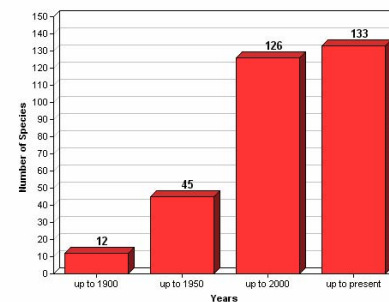
Coelenterates

state from the list below to generate graphs, then click on a graph to see the data.

Arizona



Introduced Species in AZ



(graph created: 9/5/2007 by the United States Geological Survey)



Origins of Species Introduced into AZ

This graph shows the percentage of species...



NBII Home

[ISIN Home](#) | [About](#) | [FAQs](#) | [Search](#)



[Identification](#) | [Sightings](#) | [Data](#) | [Maps](#) | [Models](#) | [Control](#) | [Restoration](#) | [Education](#) | [Get Involved](#)
[Economics](#) | [International](#)

New XML Schema for Invasive Species data exchange.

released for comment. More online at...
<http://www.gisnetwork.org>



AVIAN INFLUENZA
(Bird Flu) Information
[NBII Avian Influenza page](#)

WEST NILE VIRUS
Information
[NBII West Nile Virus page](#)

Natural ecosystems are under siege by many harmful species of plants, animals and diseases. The impacts of invasive species are second only to habitat destruction as a cause of [global](#) biodiversity loss. The current environmental, economic, and health costs of invasive species could exceed [\\$US138 billion per year](#), more than all other natural disasters combined. Notorious examples include:

- [West Nile virus](#) and [purple loosestrife](#) (Northeast)
- [Kudzu](#), [water hyacinth](#), [nutria](#), and [fire ants](#) (Southeast)
- [Zebra mussels](#) and [leafy spurge](#), (Midwest)
- [Salt cedar](#), [Russian olive](#), and [Africanized honeybees](#) (Southwest)
- [Yellow star thistle](#), [Asian clams](#), and [sudden oak death](#) (California)

CONFERENCES

[NBII.gov](#)

[InvasiveSpeciesInfo.gov](#)

HEADLINES

[Man dies after getting caught in Columbia milfoil](#) ([OregonLive.com](#))
August 26, 2007

[Bonfire of the Superweeds](#) (High Country News) August 20, 2007 (See related)

USGS Research

- Cheatgrass – salt sensitivity, soil nutrient content and invasivity
- Saltcedar contribution to bird habitat
- Cowbird parasitism
- Impacts and management of bufflegrass
- Invasive plant sampling methods
- Invasive species and fire
- Modeling of future invasions and landscape vulnerability
- Risk assessments

U.S. Geological Survey
Open-File Report 2007-1085
version 1.0

***A Dreissena* Risk Assessment for the Colorado River Ecosystem**

By Theodore A. Kennedy

2007



USGS in Arizona

- Flagstaff Science Center
- Colorado Plateau Research Station – NAU
- Grand Canyon Research & Monitoring
- Tucson Science Center
- Sonoran Desert Research Station – UofA
- National Phenology Network - UofA

**If I were starting
over again!**



Lessons learned: Management

- Adequate staff
 - Project leader
 - Outreach coordinator
 - Database administrator
 - Web/IT technician
- Implement a steering committee immediately
- Prepare an SOP up-front and review and revise regularly
- Do not try to develop beyond your operational resources
- Have a cyberinfrastructure adequate for your needs

Lessons learned: Data flow

- The pathway for data submittal will be different depending upon the type of submitter (federal, citizen, state). Don't duplicate resources for data management being developed elsewhere.
- Perennial issues must be dealt with upfront: data privacy, location privacy, taxonomic accuracy, who maintains what data, how to handle absence data, the size of the 'reporting' unit
- The typical data collector needs education and coordination on how to best use GPS, digital cameras, web sites to identify and map invasive species

New technologies

- Collaborative web sites (Wiki)
- Web map protocols (KML)
- Development in data gathering technology – smart phones, gps/data linkages, digital cameras

Japanese honeysuckle *Lonicera japonica* Thunb.

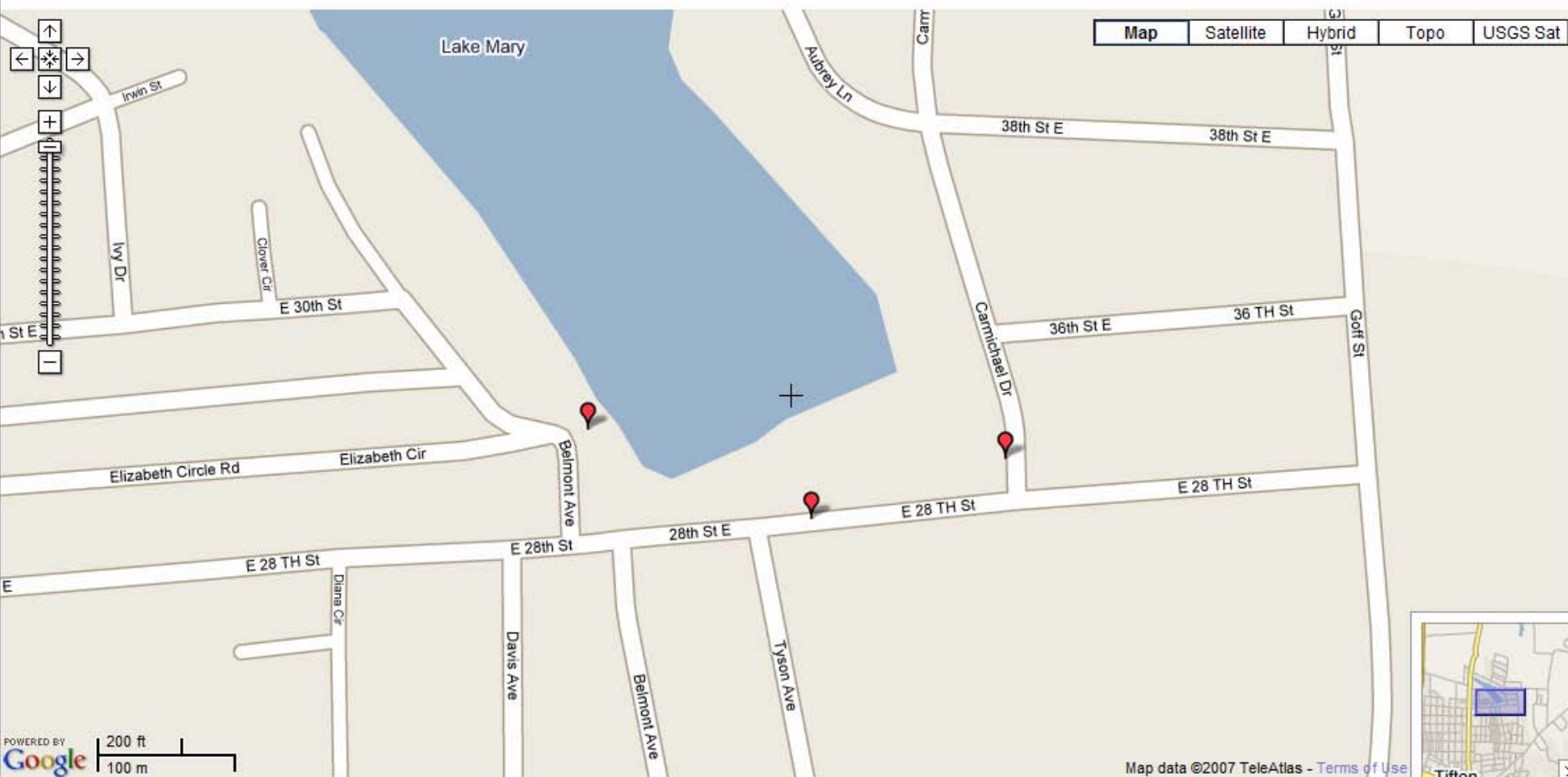
Point Distribution: [Yahoo! Maps](#)

County Distribution: Choose One



EDD MapS

Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System



drag to re-size map

Japanese honeysuckle
Lonicera japonica Thunb.

Point Distribution: [Yahoo! Maps](#)

County Distribution:



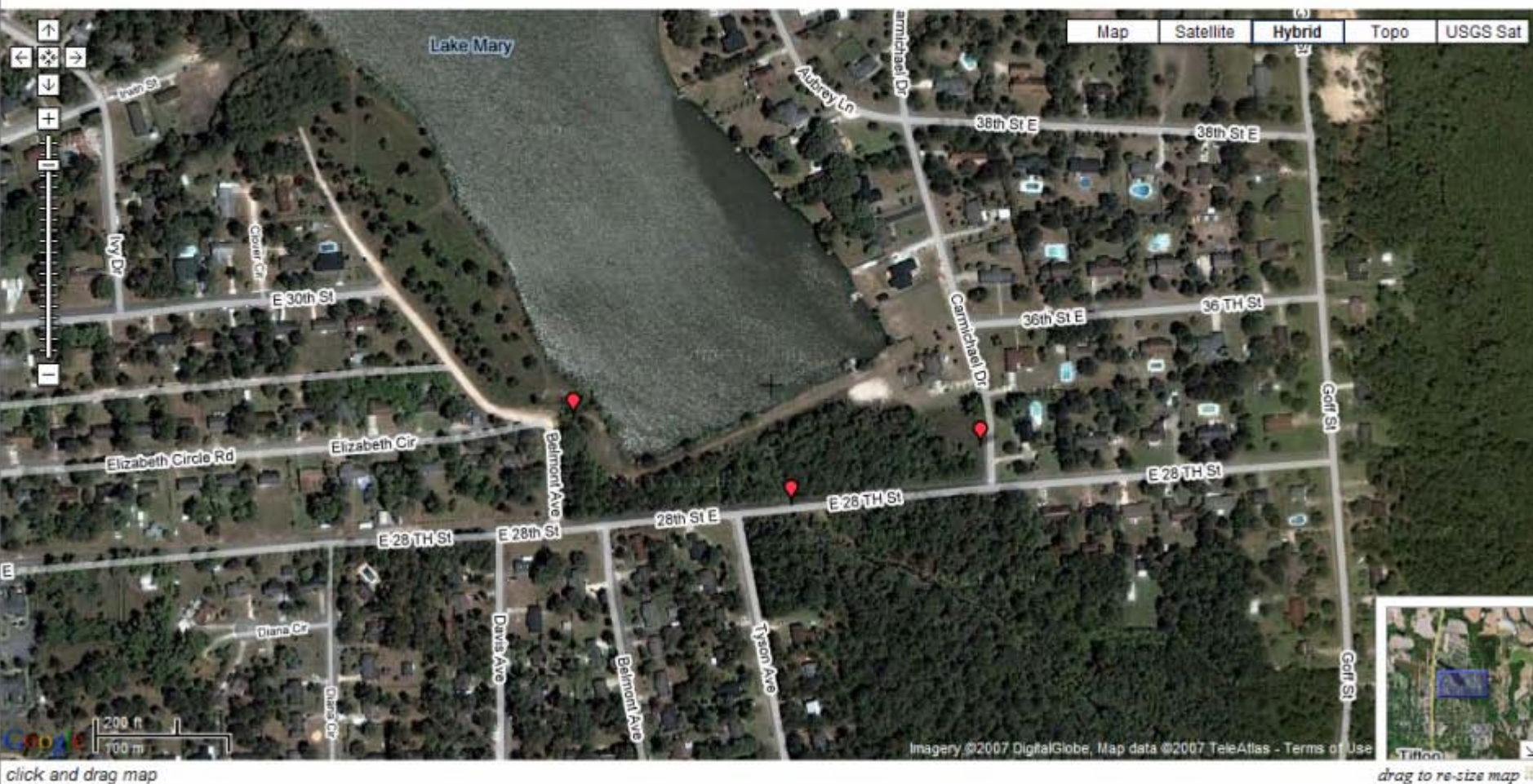
EDD MapS

Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System





County Distribution: Choose One ▼



Japanese honeysuckle
Lonicera japonica Thunb.

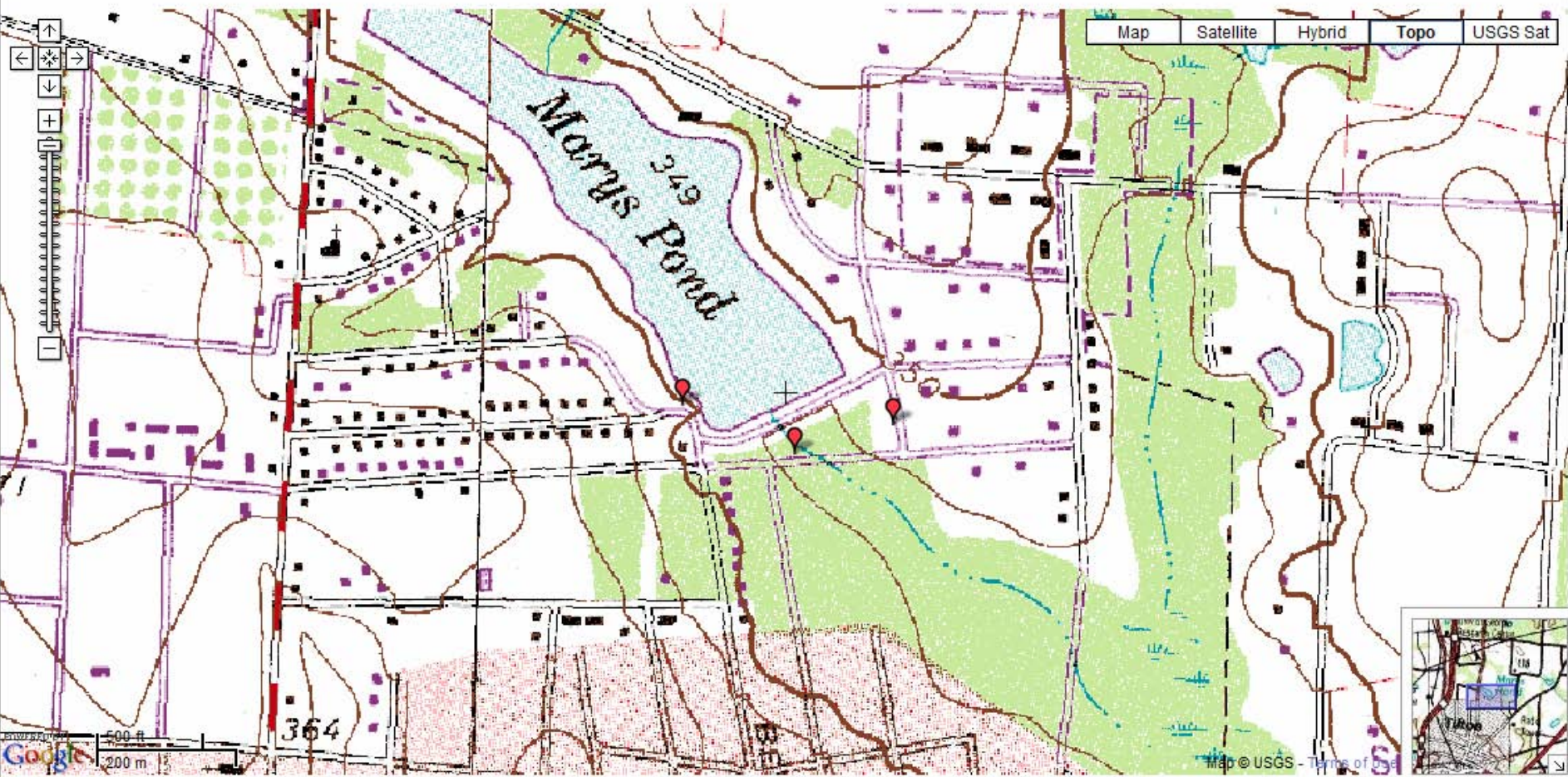
Point Distribution: [Yahoo! Maps](#)

County Distribution: Choose One



EDDMapS

Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System



click and drag map

drag to re-size map

Latitude: 31.481096344426497 Longitude: -83.49522471427917

Dactyloctenium radulans
(button grass)





Invasive Plant Atlas of New England



The Invasive Plant Atlas of New England's (IPANE) mission is to create a comprehensive web-accessible database of invasive and potentially invasive plants in New England that will be continually updated by a network of professionals and trained volunteers. The database will facilitate education and research that will lead to a greater understanding of invasive plant ecology and support informed conservation management. An important focus of the project is the early detection of, and rapid response to, new invasions.

:: Invasive plant management ::

:: Calendar of Events ::



:: Early Detection



:: IPANE Species



:: Data & Maps



New
England
Wild Flower
Society



University of
Connecticut



[::Site Map](#)

[::Contact Us](#)

[::Report a Sighting](#)

Citation Information:

Mehrhoff, L. J., J. A. Silander, Jr., S. A. Leicht, E. S. Mosher and N. M. Tabak. 2003.
IPANE: Invasive Plant Atlas of New England. Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, USA.
URL: <http://www.ipane.org>

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Invasive Plant Atlas of New England

Early Detection

[:: Species List \(Scientific Names\)](#)

[:: Species List \(Common Names\)](#)

[:: Table by States and Life Forms](#)

[:: Report a Sighting](#)

[:: Invasive Alerts](#)

Use this form to alert us to sightings of invasive species and activate our early detection network, or to ask questions of our experts. This is a communication tool: reports are not entered into our database from this form (a complete field form is necessary for inclusion in the database). Please attach digital photographs if possible.

We require your name, a note to our staff, and an email address or a phone number.
** indicates a required field

Your name **

Your E-mail

Your phone (** either email or phone is required; both may be included)

Do you want to send a CC of this message to yourself ☐ Yes ☒ No

Your note to our staff **

We can also accept pictures as further documentation. They must be either a gif, jpeg, or png (*.gif, *.jpg, *.png) and less than 3 MB each in size. Remember, the larger the file the longer it will take to transfer to our server.

File 1

File 2

File 3